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Date  
28.11.07

Reference TS 7640 EPC P	Application No./Patent No. 04804628.8 - 1263
Applicant/Proprietor SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.	

#### Extension of time limit pursuant to Rule 84 EPC

##### Examination procedure

With reference to your request, the time limit for replying to the communication dated 23.07.07 has been extended

by 2 months

to a total of 6 months

from the date of notification of the above-mentioned communication.

Please note: To the extent that your request exceeded the above extension, your request has been refused.

##### Note:

The granting of extensions to time limits is governed by the implementing Regulations to the EPC and the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO, part E-VIII, 1.6.

If no reply to the communication is received in due time, the European patent application will be deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).

Examining Division





## CONFIRMATION COPY

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22 November 2007

Our ref: TS 7640 EPC P

EPO - DG 1

European Patent Application No. 04804628.8  
Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B.V.

23. 11. 2007



Dear Sir or Madam

Please find our response to the Communication pursuant Art. 96(2) EPC in the above referred to case, setting a time limit of 4 months.

We herewith kindly request an extension of the above time limit pursuant to Rule 84 EPC.

Yours faithfully  
Shell International B.V.

A. Krebs (GA17132)  
Patent Attorney



**fax**

TO European Patent Office  
Directorate General 2  
Erhardtstrasse 27  
D-80298 MUENCHEN  
DUITSLAND

FROM A Krebs

DATE 22 November 2007

OUR REF: TS 7640 EPC P

PAGE 1 of 2

SUBJECT European Patent Application No. 04804628.8  
Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B.V.

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Internet <http://www.shell.com>

Dear Sir or Madam

Please find enclosed letter of which confirmation copy will follow.

Yours faithfully  
Shell International B.V.

A Krebs (GA 17132)

The material in this fax may be confidential, privileged and/or protected by copyright. Use of this fax should be limited accordingly. If this fax has been sent to you in error, please contact us immediately.

Established at The Hague: Carel van Bylandtlaan 30

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VAT number: NL004790996858

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Yours faithfully  
Shell International B.V.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Krebs', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

A. Krebs (GA17132)  
Patent Attorney

Established at The Hague: Carel van Bylandtlaan 30  
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TS7640EPCP extension.doc



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Telephone numbers: Branch at The Hague

Primary Examiner +31 70 340-3445  
(substantive examination)

Formalities Officer / Assistant +31 70 340-0  
(Formalities and other matters)



Application No. 04 804 628.8 - 1263	Ref. TS 7640 EPC P	Date 23.07.2007
Applicant SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.		

#### Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC

The examination of the above-identified application has revealed that it does not meet the requirements of the European Patent Convention for the reasons enclosed herewith. If the deficiencies indicated are not rectified the application may be refused pursuant to Article 97(1) EPC.

You are invited to file your observations and insofar as the deficiencies are such as to be rectifiable, to correct the indicated deficiencies within a period

**of 4 months**

from the notification of this communication, this period being computed in accordance with Rules 78(2) and 83(2) and (4) EPC.

One set of amendments to the description, claims and drawings is to be filed within the said period on separate sheets (Rule 36(1) EPC).

**Failure to comply with this invitation in due time will result in the application being deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).**



Döring, Marcus  
Primary Examiner  
for the Examining Division

Enclosure(s): 2 page/s reasons (Form 2906)

Datum  
Date 23.07.2007  
DateBlatt  
Sheet 1  
FeuilleAnmelde-Nr.:  
Application No.: 04 804 628.8  
Demande n°:

The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents**:

<b>Description, Pages</b>	1-13	as published
<b>Claims, Numbers</b>	1-14	as published
<b>Drawings, Sheets</b>	1/2, 2/2	as published

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents (D1-D3); the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: US 2003/168263 A1 (BOTTI JEAN JOSEPH ET AL) 11 September 2003

D2: US 2003/115857 A1 (PREIS MICHAEL ET AL) 26 June 2003

D3: EP-A-1 030 395 (DELPHI TECHNOLOGIES INC) 23 August 2000

- 2 An International Preliminary Report on Patentability has already been drawn up for the present application in accordance with the PCT. The deficiencies mentioned in that report on the basis of the disclosures of documents D1-D3 give rise to objections under the corresponding provisions of the EPC.

- 2.1 Because the objections made in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability cover all claims, it is not at present apparent which part of the application could serve as a basis for a new, allowable claim. Should the applicant nevertheless regard some particular matter as patentable, an independent claim should be filed taking account of Rule 29(1) EPC (document D1). The applicant should also indicate the difference of the subject-matter of the new claim vis-à-vis the state of the art and the significance thereof.

- 3 The applicant is invited to file new claims which take account of the above comments.

- 3.1 When filing amended claims the applicant should at the same time bring the description into conformity with the amended claims. Care should be taken during

**Beschaid/Protokoll (Anlage)**

Datum  
Date  
Date 23.07.2007

**Communication/Minutes (Annex)**

Blatt  
Sheet  
Feuille 2

**Notification/Procès-verbal (Annexe)**

Anmelde-Nr.:  
Application No.: 04 804 628.8  
Demande n°:

revision, especially of the introductory portion and any statements of problem or advantage, not to add subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as originally filed (Article 123(2) EPC).

- 3.2 To meet the requirements of Rule 27(1)(b) EPC, the document D1 should be identified in the description and the relevant background art disclosed therein should be briefly discussed.
- 3.3 The features of the claims should be provided with reference signs placed in parentheses to increase the intelligibility of the claims (Rule 29(7) EPC). This applies to both the preamble and characterising portion (see the Guidelines, C-III, 4.11).
- 3.4 Amendments should be made by filing replacement pages. Unnecessary recasting of the description should be avoided. An amended abstract is not required. The applicant should also take account of the requirements of Rule 36(1) EPC. If handwritten amendments are submitted, they should be clearly legible for the printer. According to the decision of the President of the EPO under Rule 35(2) EPC (OJ EPO 12/2001, 563) one set of the amended documents of the European patent application shall be provided.
- 3.5 In order to facilitate the examination of the conformity of the amended application with the requirements of Article 123(2) EPC, the applicant should clearly identify the amendments carried out, irrespective of whether they concern amendments by addition, replacement or deletion, and to indicate the passages of the application as filed on which these amendments are based (see Guidelines E-II, 1). If the applicant regards it as appropriate these indications could be submitted in handwritten form on a copy of the relevant parts of the application as filed.



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Date

06.09.06

Reference  
TS 7640 EPC P

Application No./Patent No.  
04804628.8 - 2311 PCT/EP2004053196

Applicant/Proprietor  
SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.

#### **Notification of European publication number and information on the application of Article 67(3) EPC**

The provisional protection under Article 67(1) and (2) EPC in the individual contracting states becomes effective only when the conditions referred to in Article 67(3) EPC have been fulfilled (for further details, see information brochure of the European Patent Office "National Law relating to the EPC" and additional information in the Official Journal of the European Patent Office).

Pursuant to Article 158(1) EPC the publication under Article 21 PCT of an international application for which the European Patent Office is a designated Office takes the place of the publication of a European patent application.

The bibliographic data of the above-mentioned Euro-PCT application will be published on 04.10.06 in Section I.1 of the European Patent Bulletin. The European publication number is 1706628.

In all future communications to the European Patent Office, please quote the application number plus Directorate number.

Receiving Section







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23-08-2006

Reference  
TS 7640 EPC P

Application No./Patent No.  
04804628.8 - 2311 PCT/EP2004053196

Applicant/Proprietor

SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V.

## Communication pursuant to Rules 109 and 110 EPC

### (1) Amendment of application documents, especially the claims (R. 109 EPC)

The above mentioned international (Euro-PCT) application has entered the European phase, or can do so, once the necessary conditions are fulfilled.

Under Articles 28, 41 PCT, Rules 52, 78 PCT and Rule 86(2) to (4) EPC, the applicant may amend the application documents after receiving the international search report.

**Whether or not he has already done so, he now has a further opportunity to file amended claims or other application documents within a non-extendable time limit of one month after notification of the present communication (R. 109 EPC).**

The claims applicable on expiry of the above time limit, i.e. those filed on entry into the European phase or in response to the present communication, will form the basis for the calculation of any claims fee to be paid (see page 2) and for any supplementary search to be carried out under Article 157(2) EPC (R. 109 EPC).

**(2) Claims fees under Rule 110 EPC**

If the application documents on which the European grant procedure is to be based comprise more than ten claims, a claims fee shall be payable for the eleventh and each subsequent claim within the period provided for in Rule 107(1) EPC.

- ☒ Based on the application documents currently on file, all necessary claims fees have already been paid (or the documents do not comprise more than 10 claims).
- ☐ All necessary fees will be/have been debited automatically according to the automatic debit order.
- ☐ The claims fee due for the claims ..... to ..... were not paid within the above-mentioned period.

Any non-paid claims fee, either based on the current set of claims or on any amended claims to be filed pursuant to Rule 109 EPC (see page 1), may still be validly paid within a non-extendable period of grace of **one month** after notification of this communication.

If a payment is made for only some of the claims, it must be indicated for which claims it is intended. If a claims fee is not paid in due time, the claim concerned is deemed to be abandoned (R. 110(4) EPC).

If claims fees have already been paid, but on expiry of the above-mentioned time limit there is a new set of claims containing fewer fee-incurring claims than previously, the claims fees in excess of those due under Rule 110(2), 2nd sentence, EPC will be refunded (R. 110(3) EPC).

You are reminded that any supplementary search under Article 157(2) EPC will relate only to the last set of claims applicable on expiry of the above time limit AND will be confined to those fee-incurring claims for which fees have been paid in due time.

The fee for the eleventh and each subsequent claim is EUR 45,00.

Receiving Section

